

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/617,514	COUSHAIN, CHARLES M.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Hargobind S Sawhney	2875	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 7/29/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 11,14 and 15.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 11 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>10/4/2004</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

1. The Amendment A filed on July 29, 2004 has been entered. Accordingly, Claims 11, 14, 15 and 18 have been amended.
2. The examiner contacted the attorney, Mr. William E. Meyer, to understand the argument in reference to the radius/ optical depth ratio of the reflector recited in Claim 8. Mr. Meyer restated that mounting of a shallow reflector would not require cutting a large hole in the vehicle hull, and thus making the vehicle hull structurally weak. He further indicated that it is preferred to have a minimum number of holes to keep the hull structurally strong.

In response, the examiner indicated that the metal forming technology permits forming dents and cavities in metal plates for mounting a reflector. Therefore, the above-indicated argument is not convincing. Thus, claims 8-10, 12, 13, 16, 17 and 19 stay rejected as discussed in the last office action.

In addition, the examiner informed Mr. Meyer that independent Claim 18 include the limitation "independently controlled a first and a second sets of LEDs emitting respectively first and second color lights" is well known in the art. Therefore, based on further examination, Claim 18 stays rejected.

Finally, the examiner informed Mr. Meyer that the amended independent claims 11, 14, and 15 include allowable subject matters.

In response, Mr. Meyer authorized an Examiner's Amendment requiring cancellation of claims 8-10, 12, 13 and 16-19. A copy of the interview summary is attached herewith.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. William E. Meyer on October, 4, 2004.

Cancel claims 8-10, 12, 13 and 16-19.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 11, 14 and 15 are allowed.

The prior art of record, including Paire (French Patent No.: FR 2'628823), Kondo (US Patent No.: 6,558,032 B2) , fails to show or suggest the applicant's invention as claimed. Specifically, the prior art of record does not an automotive lamp assembly combining:

- an intermediate reflector supported by at least two posts offset from the axis as recited in Claim 11;
- a coupling to the main reflector including a light transmissive wall as recited in Claim 14;

- an intermediate reflector supported by a cylinder surrounding one or more LEDs as recited in Claim 15;

The combination of the above-indicated features, including a main reflector with a light transmissive coupling, and an intermediate reflector supported by two posts, makes this disclosure unique.

Therefore claims 11, 14 and 15 are allowed over prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

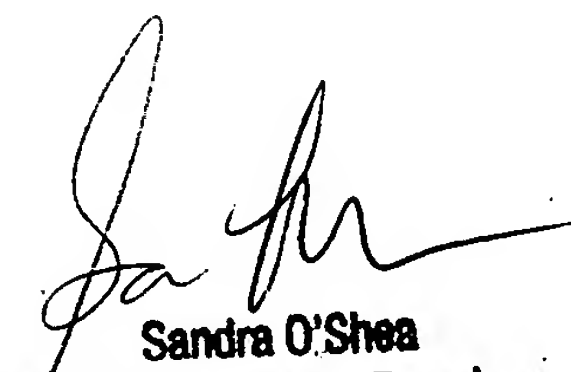
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hargobind S Sawhney whose telephone number is on 571-272-2380. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:15 - 2:45.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on 571-272-2378. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and (703) 872-9306 for After Final communications and 703-872-9319.

Art Unit: 2875

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number 703-308-2956.

HSS
10/4/2004



Sandra O'Shea
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800